

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the following paragraph(s) for the abstract now appearing in the currently filed specification:

A [[An]] pose estimation and comparison system has [[an]] a pose estimation and comparison unit [[20]]. The pose estimation and comparison unit [[20]] has an pose candidate decision unit [[30]] which decides an pose candidate. According to the generated pose candidate, a comparison image generation unit [[40]] generates a plurality of comparison images close to the input image, while projecting a three-dimensional object model obtained from a three-dimensional object model storage unit [[45]] to a two-dimensional image. A sharpness extraction unit [[60]] extracts a first sharpness amount reflecting the sharpness from each of the generated comparison images. A weighted difference calculator [[50]] calculates a plurality of weighted differences by weighting the first sharpness amount to the difference between the input image and each of the comparison images. A determination unit [[52]] selects a comparison image having the smallest weighted difference as the comparison image closest to the input image, thereby performing the pose estimation and comparison.